

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (presently amended) A multiple sample processing apparatus for a continuous flow centrifuge, comprising a plurality of axially aligned processing chambers and expressor chambers, each chamber including ~~comprising~~ an axial opening housing a central hub, ~~in a fixed arrangement, and a plurality of central hubs disposed in the axial openings, wherein a respective central hub of a respective chamber includes at least one first dedicated passageway dedicated for fluid communication with the respective chamber and at least one second dedicated passageway for fluid communication with another processing chamber or expressor chamber the central hubs constructed and arranged to define passages for fluid communication between the chambers and a fluid supply.~~
2. (original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said processing chambers and said expressor chambers are alternately arranged.
3. (original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein each said processing chamber is arranged within a corresponding expressor chamber.
4. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the processing and expressor chambers are constructed and arranged to be flexible and expandable.
5. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the processing and expressor chambers are constructed and arranged to releasably contact each other at a circumferential portion of the chambers when the expressor chambers are filled with an expressor fluid.
6. (original) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the central hubs are constructed and arranged to prevent construction of an apparatus having two adjacent processing chambers.
7. (original) The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the central hubs are constructed and arranged to prevent construction of an apparatus having two adjacent expressor chambers.

8. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the central hubs are constructed and arranged to define multiple passages for fluid communication.
9. (original) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the central hubs comprise a number of passages for fluid communication that is at least equal to the number of chambers in the apparatus.
10. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a plurality of weld rings disposed on the central hubs, and constructed and arranged to permit attachment of processing chambers and expressor chambers.
11. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the processing chambers and expressor chambers are substantially the same shape.
12. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the processing chambers are smaller than the expressor chambers.
13. (original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the processing chambers and expressor chambers are substantially circular.
14. (presently amended) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the processing chambers and expressor chambers have substantially the same diameter.
15. (original) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the processing chambers have a smaller diameter than the expressor chambers.
16. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the processing chambers and expressor chambers are constructed from two sheets of flexible material, the two sheets of material sealed at an outer circumference and an inner circumference, wherein the inner circumference is substantially adjacent the axial opening.
17. Canceled.
18. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a fluid entry hub disposed at a

fluid entry point of the plurality of axially aligned processing chambers and expressor chambers, the fluid entry hub being constructed and arranged to serve as an interface for fluid communication between the plurality of axially aligned alternating processing chambers and expressor chambers and a fluid pathway external to the continuous flow centrifuge.

19. (original) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the fluid pathway is a multi-lumen tube.
35. (new) A multiple sample processing apparatus for a continuous flow centrifuge, comprising a plurality of axially aligned processing chambers, each chamber including an axial opening housing a central hub, wherein a respective central hub of a respective chamber includes at least one first dedicated passageway dedicated for fluid communication with the respective chamber and at least one second dedicated passageway for fluid communication with another processing chamber.
36. (new) A multiple sample processing apparatus for a continuous flow centrifuge, comprising at least one processing chamber and at least one axially aligned expressor chamber, each chamber including an axial opening housing a central hub, wherein a respective central hub of a respective chamber includes at least one first dedicated passageway dedicated for fluid communication with the respective chamber and at least one second dedicated passageway for fluid communication with another processing or expressor chamber.

Claims 20-34. Canceled.

REMARKS

The application has been thoroughly reviewed in light of the outstanding Action of July 8, 2003. Claims 1-16, 18, 19 and 35-36 are currently pending, with claims 1, 35 and 36 being independent. Claims 17 and 20-34 have been cancelled without prejudice and/or disclaimer of subject matter. Each of the points raised in the outstanding Action are addressed below.